

REMARKS

Claims 1-10, 13-15, and 21-23 are pending in the above application. By the above amendment, claims 21-23 have been added.

The Office Action dated January 6, 2006, has been received and carefully reviewed. Each issue raised in that Office Action is addressed below.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

Claim 8 remains rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The basis for this rejection is that the examiner cannot determine how a die blank forms a pattern or the size and shape of the claimed terminals formed by die blanking. Applicant requested that the examiner cite authority for requiring an applicant to claim size and shape of various structures. This has not been done.

Die blanking is a known operation. Figure 6, for example shows one example of a die. Figure 2 shows a shape that may result from a die blanking operation. These figures, and the remaining description will make it clear to one skilled in the relevant art what is being claimed. Claim 8 is directed to any shape that can be formed by die blanking. Certain shapes, as described and shown in this disclosure, for example, can be formed by die blanking. Other shapes, a sphere, for example, cannot be formed by die blanking. This limitation therefore defines the structures that are covered by claim 8 in a definite manner. The MPEP requires that all claim limitations be considered. Unless the examiner can cite a statute or rule to show why a limitation is being ignored, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections of claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph should be withdrawn.

The Office Action also indicates that the shape and size of the claimed terminals cannot be determined. In the previous Reply, Applicant requested that the examiner cite an authority to show why it is necessary to describe the shape and size of claimed elements. No such authority has been provided. Unless the examiner can cite authority showing why the size and shape of elements must be claimed, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, is improper and should be withdrawn.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Kishita

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kishita. Applicant's previous arguments focused on the meaning of the term "end." It is believed that the interpretation of "end" being used by the examiner is broader than what would be understood by one skilled in the art reading the present disclosure. However, in order to further the prosecution of this case, claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define front faces, rear faces and side faces. Kishita shows a substrate 11 having a chip connected to a front face. No electrically conductive patterns are formed on the side faces. Claim 1 as amended is therefore submitted to be allowable over Kishita.

Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1 and are submitted to be allowable for the same reasons as claim 1.

Claim 8 also stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kishita. Claim 8 has been amended in a similar manner to claim 1. Claim 8 is submitted to be allowable for at least the reasons provided above in connection with claim 1. Claims 9, 10 and 13-15 depend from claim 8 and are submitted to be allowable for the same reasons as claim 8.

Juso

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Juso. This rejection is also based on an interpretation of "end" that is believed to be unreasonably broad. However, as presently amended, claim 1 requires one or more semiconductor chips mounted onto front faces of one or more substrates and one or more electrically conductive patterns for shielding formed at one or more side faces of the substrate or substrates. This arrangement is not shown or suggested by Juso, and claim 1 is submitted to be allowable over Juso for at least this reason.

Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1 and are submitted to be allowable for the same reasons as claim 1.

Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Juso. Claim 8 is submitted to be allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Claims 9, 10 and 13-15 depend from claim 8 and are submitted to be allowable for the same reasons as claim 8.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Juso and McKaveney

Claims 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Juso in view of McKaveney. Claims 3 and 4 depend from claim 1. McKaveney does not address the shortcomings of Juso discussed above in connection with claim 1. Claims 3 and 4 are therefore submitted to be allowable over the art of record for the same reasons as claim 1.

APA and Inoue

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA (Figures 8 and 9 of the present application) in view of Inoue. APA shows a structure generally similar to the claimed structure but without the claimed electrically conductive patterns for shielding. Inoue does not show a conductive pattern for shielding formed at one or more side faces of a substrate. Therefore, even if a motivation for combining these references were provided, at most the result would be the device of APA with a copper paste over the front surface thereof. This is not what is required by claim 1, and claim 1 is submitted to be allowable over APA in view of Inoue for at least this reason. Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1 and are submitted to be allowable for the same reasons as claim 1.

Claim 8 is also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Inoue. Claims 9, 10 and 13-15 depend from claim 8 and are submitted to be allowable for the same reasons as claim 8.

APA and Inoue and McKaveney

Claims 4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Inoue and further in view of McKaveney. Claims 4 and 6 depend from claim 1.

McKaveney does not address the shortcomings of claim 1 discussed above. Claims 4 and 6 are therefore submitted to be allowable for the same reasons as claim 1.

Horio and Inoue

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Horio and Inoue. As argued in the previous Reply, Horio uses a shield cap 3 for shielding. Horio does not show an electrically conductive pattern for shielding as claimed. Inoue shows ends of a substrate that are uncovered. Thus, the combination of Horio and Inoue in no manner suggests the invention required by claim 1.

Claims 2-7 and 13-15 depend from claim 1 and are submitted to be allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Horio and Inoue. Claim 8 also requires one or more electrically conductive patterns on one or more side faces of at least one of the substrate or substrates. Claim 8 is therefore submitted to be allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Horio and Inoue and McKaveney

Claims 4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Horio and Inoue in further view of McKaveney. McKaveney does not address the shortcomings of Horio and Inoue discussed above in connection with claim 1. Claims 4 and 6 are therefore submitted to be allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

CONCLUSION

Each issue raised in the Office Action dated January 6, 2005, has been addressed, and it is believed that claims 1-10, 13-15, and 21-23 are in condition for allowance. Wherefore, reconsideration and allowance of these claims is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Scott Wakeman (Reg. No. 37,750)

Application No. 10/791,750
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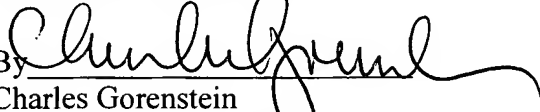
Docket No.: 0951-0133P

at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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